

# THE CIMARRON CITIZEN

The Cimarron Valley Has the Land, Climate and Water. Wanted—One Thousand Farmers

FIRST YEAR

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NUMBER FOUR

## OLD PROJECT COMPLETED

### Writer in 1874 Tells of Railroad Through Cimarron--Pertaining Ark. Val. & Cimarron R.R.

Through the kindness of Burton Williams, the Citizen is in receipt of the following bit of history pertaining to the old Arkansas Valley & Cimarron railroad, which was at one time planned.

While in St. Louis recently, Mr. Williams ran across a book on the southwest, written by Elias Brevoort in 1874. There are many old pioneers in Cimarron who can remember these stirring times, and who will undoubtedly be interested in the following condensed extract from the book above mentioned. Elias Brevoort was an army officer who early recognized the importance of a railroad through the country surrounding Cimarron, and it was through his endeavors partly that the survey spoken of was made. It is curious to note that part of the route outlined is now followed by the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific road.

The survey of the Arkansas Valley & Cimarron railroad started at some point of the Arkansas valley, connects with the Santa Fe, and then runs southwesterly toward Capulin Mountain, and then proceeding westerly the line begins to descend by the Tulaia, a small stream, to the Canadian valley, and thence directly across a beautiful plain exceedingly well watered by the Vermejo, the Ponil and the Cimarron rivers, to the town of Cimarron in Colfax county. The route of the road has been surveyed, we believe, as far as the town of Cimarron, and although the location surveys have not as yet been prosecuted west of that point, a series of examinations and reconnaissances have been made, extending westward through the Spanish Range, to the valley of the Rio Grande, which, while demonstrating that no less

than three available passes exist within fifty miles of Cimarron, that one—the Taos pass—was eminently practical. To reach this pass, a line with comparatively light work and easy grades is found running directly from Cimarron up the valley and the canon of the Cimarron river, to the Moreno valley. Thence, keeping up the valley to the summit, across and down Taos creek to the city of Taos, making the distance from Cimarron to Taos only about fifty miles, and by far the cheapest and the best crossing of the mountains between Albuquerque, Santa Fe and the Black Hills in Dakota. And at the same time passing the entire distance through a country that will afford immense local traffic. Not only is the country east of the Taos pass exceedingly rich, but, reaching the Rio Grande valley, the line will open up the immense area of agricultural, mineral and pastoral country to the westward.

From the above it seems that even at the early date of 1874, when rich land throughout the United States was plentiful and could be purchased for what would now be considered a mere song, Elias Brevoort recognized the exceeding richness of the Southwest and the Cimarron Valley, and the importance it must some day take in the development of the country at large. When one stops to consider that the above was written when little Cimarron was the County Seat of Colfax County, before the town of Springer existed, and also before Raton, now a city of eight thousand was started, it makes one better recognize that we really have something here to develop; an immense heritage—something of wealth beyond imagination; something to work and toil for.

## WHAT CIMARRON VALLEY CAN DO

The following item taken from a farming journal will give some idea of what can be expected from the Cimarron Valley. The item does not say where the seed was planted, but for the sake of argument, we will say that the Cimarron Valley produced the result noted below, since it is the best part of northern New Mexico.

"In the year 1906, a single grain of corn was found in the Aztec ruins in northern New Mexico. Last spring that grain was planted and it appears to be a new variety. Its stalks have grown eighteen feet high, bearing ears averaging seventeen inches long. The kernels are large and sweeter than ordinary corn. This is creditable, for seeds of various sorts found in ancient Oriental ruins on being planted have demonstrated their vitality. The Aztecs inhabited the highlands of Mexico and are supposed to have been conquered by Cortez early in the sixteenth century."

## CIMARRON COMPANY BRANCHES OUT

Any set of hustlers and rustlers have to get up early in the morning to beat Cimarron business men out, and the truth of this is shown by the swiftness and dispatch with which the Cimarron Lumber company has established a new lumber yard at the newly platted town of Colfax. Quickly recognizing the importance that the new town will be in the development of the Cimarron Valley, the company at once decided that no time was to be lost in establishing a branch yard there. Accordingly land was obtained, and lumber was shipped in by the car load. If this enterprise is indicative of what will be done in the future, Colfax will indeed be a success.

There is a demand for lumber at Colfax already, and the new post-office has been started. There is every chance for the new yard to make a good thing for its owners, and the Citizen sincerely wishes the Cimarron Lumber Co. every success in its new enterprise.

## HEIR TO \$17,000,000 ESTATE

### Baren Phillip von Zuylen Leaves for Holland--Will Return and Make Cimarron His Home

If you had followed mining and prospecting for years, enduring all the hardships incidental to such a life, and then woke up some morning to learn that you had fallen heir to an estate valued at \$17,000,000, and that it was no dream, but a fact, wouldn't it make you feel glad that you awoke?

This might look at a glance as though it was a cheap story of the Sunday newspaper, savoring of the pipe that induces dreams of wealth which end in nothing but disappointment, but happily it is not. It is a fact undisputed and came to light in Cimarron.

Little did our people think one of our quiet, unassuming citizens was a multi-millionaire. Little did this quiet, unassuming citizen think so either, for he didn't know it himself until a few days ago.

Baron Phillip von Zuylen is the name of our fellow townsman and not one in our midst but what heartily congratulates him on his good fortune. A few days ago Baron Phillip received notice from counsellors in Holland that through the death of an uncle he was one of the right heirs to an estate valued at \$17,000,000. "Von," as he was known to his friends here, had often said that he came of a wealthy, titled family in Holland, but he pitched his lot with many thousands of other from across the ocean and decided to make America his home.

He has resided in and about Cimarron for a number of years, engaged in prospecting, and is interested in many valuable claims. By his jovial, honest and upright ways, he made friends of everyone with whom he came in contact.

He left here Monday for Holland to claim his share of the vast estate,

but that is all, his home is in America, and no place has more attraction for him than Cimarron where he has spent so many years of his life and where he expects to remain to the end.

Before leaving here he said: "This is my home and always will be. I would be foolish not to return to my native land and secure what rightfully belongs to me. But I would be equally foolish to remain there. Holland is nothing to me now any more than it has been since the first day I set foot on American soil. I will return to America and to Cimarron just as soon as possible. I will bring my share of the fortune here and invest it in Cimarron and vicinity, because I expect to end my days among people who I know from year of intimate association, are my friends."

Baron Phillip von Zuylen is a man of high education and culture, and his declaration to return here means much for Cimarron. He will now be in a position to develop his property, which we all know is valuable and only needs the infusion of capital to prove it to the satisfaction of everyone. With the vast sum which will be at disposal, the hidden resources of this vicinity will be brought to light and make Cimarron the "Goldfield of the Southwest." This man who has humbly traversed every foot of the country adjacent to Cimarron has unbounded faith in its richness, and through him, more than any other one man, the Citizen feels free to predict that our hopes will at last be fully realized and Cimarron will occupy the position it deserves at the topmost round of the ladder, and which has so long been denied her.

"God speed to Baron Phillip von Zuylen."

## MAXWELL LAND GRANT OPENS MINERAL LANDS

### Location Method Changed--Will Sell Script--Hugo Seaberg Engineers Deal of Inestimatable Value to Development of Cimarron--97000 Acres can be Purchased.

### 97,000 ACRES CAN BE PURCHASED

Since the building of the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific railroad, no deal of such inestimable value in the development of Cimarron as the deal that has just been consummated by Hugo Seaberg and the Maxwell Land Grant Co. This big deal involves over \$1,000,000, and throws open for purchase by the general public, over 97,000 acres of the richest mineral land in the whole southwest. This big district lies along the Uracca, the Cimarroncito, the Cimarron and the Ponil and covers their heads, running from Township 31 N., of Range 15 E. south to Township 26 N., of Range 15 E., and running west almost to the west line of Range 14.

Hereafter, all mineral rights or claims will be handled by Hugo Seaberg of Raton, or his agents, and instead of the antiquated methods heretofore in vogue, in stead of being forced to do location and development work year after year, the public can now buy script in very much the same manner that script is purchased from the government, and locate on the claim. After the expiration of a certain period, about thirty days, the owner of script can demand a deed to the property which he has located upon, and thereafter that property is his to do with as he wished. The owner of each certificate is entitled to locate on ten and one-third acres for each certificate he may own, and these certificates are transferable as often as may be desired. They are nothing more or less than a contract to give a deed to the land located upon complying with some minor regulations.

"This big deal which has just been completed, takes in nearly all of the more valuable mining or mineral lands of the Maxwell Land Grant Co. and the opening up of such a large tract for location by mining script will be of great value to Cimarron in its development. The district has heretofore been inaccessible on account of the absence of railroad facilities and the in attractive methods of acquiring title or mining rights. Now that the new regulations do away with the last objection, there will undoubtedly be great development in the district within a short

time. As soon as this development starts on a large enough scale, the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain & Pacific railroad is ready to extend its line into whatever portion of the district is warranted. Already the Cimarroncito district has taken on new life. Big plans were made for development even before the news of this deal became known, and with this new incentive, there can be no doubt but that the railroad will soon be called upon to extend up the Cimarroncito, because eastern capital will now have every inducement to place large development sums into the district. The Cimarroncito properties, which comprise some of the very richest in the whole district, is about twelve miles from the railroad at the present time. In the Cimarron district in even shorter distance are to be found other rich deposits.

#### May Have Smelter.

With the coming development of the mining districts around Cimarron, will come the building of a smelter here. There can be no more ideal location for a smelter than right here in Cimarron. We have the water for its use. Water is plenty and never failing. The great deposits of coal in the hills to the westward and the location of the mines to the westward, will make a down hill haul for both coal and ore. Thus the freight rates will be small and the expense but nominal. With the opening of the smelter, and the opening of the coal mines to the west to supply coal for the smelter, will, of necessity, come the establishment of big coke ovens in Cimarron. Everything points to a new and rapid growth for Cimarron, and the districts surrounding it.

When one stops to consider that the new district now opened up is one of the richest in gold, silver, copper and lead in the whole southwest, and that it exceeds in area the famous Cripple Creek district of Colorado, and also the famous Goldfield district of Nevada, that the railroad facilities are of the best, that the methods for acquiring title to rich mineral lands is easy, and that the lands can be purchased at small cost at the present time, he can readily see what the value to Cimarron will be.

## ZOOLOGIST HERE

### WALTER RALSTON COLLECTS REPTILES FOR NEW YORK SOCIETY--TRAVELED ALL OVER THE WORLD.

Walter Ralston, a collector of reptiles and insects for the New York Zoological Society, of which J. Pierpoint Morgan, the financial magnate, is the head, was a visitor in Cimarron last week. The New York Zoological Society is the biggest society of its kind in the world, and its big zoological park in the Bronx, N. Y. is the largest and best equipped "zoo" in the United States. This society is supported largely by gifts and donations, and its annual income is over \$1,500,000. It has thousands of collectors in all parts of the world, and Mr. Ralston has been an agent for it for years.

Says Mr. Ralston, "I have been engaged in collecting snakes and reptiles for the society for years. I have been all around the world and have collected every kind of snake except that species which comes out of the bottle, and every sort of reptile in most any place you could mention. I have been all through South America, but the worst mess I ever got into was in Oklahoma. I raided a rattlesnake den in the new state, and took out 600 snakes, the smallest one captured was over four feet long. Can you beat that with any fish or bear story?"

Mr. Ralston states that there are only two kinds of poisonous snakes in the Territory of New Mexico. The Copperhead and the Rattler. He further explained that we have no poisonous lizards in the Territory with the exception of the Gila Monster in the southern part, and that a fifteen percent solution of chloride of lime ap-

## COX WILL BUILD HOTEL

### CIMARRON MAN WILL ERECT HOTEL AT NEW TOWN OF COLFAX--TWO STORY AFFAIR.

With opening up of Colfax, comes the announcement that A. C. Cox of Cimarron will build a hotel in the new town. Mr. Cox will erect a two story building, modeled on the Oxford hotel here in Cimarron and owned by Duckworth & Marling. The new hotel will be about the same size and the arrangement will be almost identical with the Oxford.

Mr. Cox expects to put in a bar room in the front floor, and also a first class up to date restaurant on the same floor. The second story of the building will be taken up with rooms for sleeping, and it is thought that there will be ample space for at least ten commodious rooms.

As soon as the business of the new hotel justifies such a move, Mr. Cox will build himself a residence at Colfax, and move his family there. He does not, however, intend to dispose of his interests here in Cimarron, and it is more than likely that he will continue to make Cimarron his headquarters for some time to come.

This is another case of the enterprising Cimarron business man taking advantage of business opportunities that may be offered. There is every reason to think the new hotel will do very nicely, because of the fact that a large number of transients are forced to wait at Colfax in order to make connections for either Cimarron, Dawson or Raton and the south. The Citizen is informed that Mr. Cox has already made his contract for the construction of the building and that work will be begun at once.

## OLD TIMER IN CIMARRON

### SOLDIERED THROUGH THIS COUNTY TWENTY YEARS AGO--TELLS INTERESTING STORIES.

Mr. G. Romer, who is now traveling salesman for an eastern house, visited Cimarron last week, and while here had some very interesting tales of the old times in the southwest to relate. Mr. Romer went into the United States regulars soon after the civil war, and served as trooper and soldier in both the cavalry and infantry throughout the west and southwest. For fifteen years he served as private, corporal, sergeant and sergeant major in the 2nd cavalry and the 5th infantry, and later he won his commission as a reward of merit. With his regiment, he soldiered all through Colfax county in the early and rough days, protecting railroads, fighting Indians, hunting out desperadoes and policing the country. He says that he was in Cimarron when it was a center of roughness, and in the mountains when wild turkeys could be killed with a stick, back in the mountains. Mr. Romer is very much interested in the development of the southwest, and considers Colfax county, with its rich lands, and plentiful water supply to be the cream of the whole southwest, and he considers the Cimarron Valley to be the choice section of Colfax county. Coming from a man who has traveled all over the west and southwest, this expression should be entitled to great weight. Mr. Romer further stated that in his opinion, the opportunities for making money here in Colfax county to a young man with brains, energy and a little capital, are unequalled by any other section of the whole United States.

## SURVEY IS COMPLETED

### FOURTEEN THOUSAND ACRES AROUND COLFAX IS NOW SURVEYED AND IS ON THE MARKET.

The New Mexico Land Sales Co., who recently laid out the new town of Colfax, has completed the survey of a big tract of land which is now open and ready to be placed on the market. This big company owns about forty thousand acres of rich land around Colfax, and its engineers have just finished laying off a portion of it into forty acre tracts. Engineer E. H. Fisher, who was in charge of the survey work, has returned to Cimarron with his party. He states that the land surveyed consists of about fourteen thousand acres, and that this tract lies to the east and northeast of Colfax, and that over two-thirds of it is now under water. The old Vermejo High-line ditch will probably be repaired, and this will put a large portion of the tract under water without more or further trouble. Mr. Fisher states that one can get water by driving wells on almost any portion of the land, and that because of this reason, all of the land is suitable for dry farming.

It is the plan of the company to put one hundred forty acres tracts on the market at once, and batches of other hundreds of forty acre tracts will be placed for sale as fast as the necessity arises.

Gav. Hughes got in line with St. Patrick's Day by recalling his Irish great-grandfather who fought the British in the Revolution, but he is still a long way behind Mr. Roosevelt's classified assortment of ancestors.

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